

THURSDAY, NOV. 17, 1960

DOWNSTREAM...

By Norman Blake

The Day the Jury Was Excused

THE FAMOUS SHARP TWINS OF POCAHONTAS



JUDGE SUMMERS H. SHARP
(Now 80)
Former Candidate for Governor



GEORGE WINTERS SHARP
(Deceased)
Former Secretary of State

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That reminded us of the time Judge Sharp's twin brother, the late George Sharp, once excused so many of the Judge's jury that a court session in Lewisburg had to be delayed. George Sharp came to Lewisburg on a business matter the day before court was to convene, if we recall the story correctly. Thinking he was the Judge, several jurymen asked to be excused for various reasons. Their requests were promptly granted.

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Judge Summers H. and George Sharp looked so much alike that even their close friends often could not tell them apart. We remember another unrecorded incident involving the two which happened during the election campaign of 1936, when Judge Sharp was the Republican candidate for Governor.

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A waitress popped in from the kitchen, and, seeing George seated there ready to eat, dashed back into the kitchen breathlessly.

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"You know that man who ate so much?" she asked the cook. "Well, he's back in there wanting to eat again."

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The hotel rang with laughter when the truth was finally known.

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During a lull in the precinct returns, we told Dr. D. D. "Ike" Harnah, the School Superintendent, our story about the Sharp twins. Being a natural-born conversationalist, Ike always has something interesting or funny (or both) to tell in return. It reminded him of a set of identical twins who lived in his neighborhood when he was a boy.

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"I could lick one of them," Ike said, "but the other one could lick me. I couldn't tell them apart, so sometimes I got the daylight whaled out of me by mistake."

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Bronson Not Downhearted...

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By pre-arrangement, the twins were to meet at noon on a certain day in Summersville, the Judge and his party coming down from the north and George Sharp from Charleston. There was a hotel in Summersville which was noted for its excellent food, and we looked forward to having lunch there.

Judge Sharp arrived first and ate a very hearty meal, being a big man—enough for two average people, we remember. When he had finished he went out on the hotel porch and met his brother George just coming in. After

greetings, George then went back to the dining room and sat down.

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Bronson Not Downhearted....

Bronson McClung of Richwood, co-publisher of "Hillbilly" and the "News Leader," spent Thursday and Friday in Greenbrier in the interest of "Hillbilly." He told us that his unsuccessful campaign for the House of Delegates in Nicholas County cost him about \$600 in cash and a lot of time, but he does not consider either to have been wasted. He made a lot of friends, had a lot of interesting experiences and got a lot of advertising in his all-out effort for victory.

We wish others could take the proper attitude of Bronson and not feel so dejected following a disheartening campaign.

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